

In the Claims:

Cancel claims 2, 5, 6, 8, 12-19, and 21-25 without estoppel or disclaimer of the subject matter thereof;

Amend claims 1, 3, 4, 7, 9, 11 and 20, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A catheter system for ablating biological tissue at a target tissue site, comprising:

an elongated body member having a proximal end and a distal ends  
portion flexibly attached to the elongated body member, the body member having at  
least one lumen passing therethrough from near the proximal end at least to a  
location proximal the flexible attachment of the distal portion;

a handle portion operably attached to the proximal end of the elongated  
body member;

an ablation device disposed at the distal portion of the body member and  
including at least one ablation element adapted to emit ablative energy therefrom;  
and

a pull wire slidably disposed within the at least one lumen and fixedly a-  
means for steering the catheter proximate to the target tissue site, the steering means  
operably attached to the body member proximal to the ablation device at a first  
location therealong proximal the flexible distal portion and at a first angular

~~orientation about and comprising a pull wire slidably attached at a predetermined distance from a distal end of the steering means at a first angular position with respect to the longitudinal axis of the elongated body member, -the pull wire being slidably attached to the elongated body member of a second location therealong that is proximally spaced from the first location and that is oriented at a second different angular orientation about the longitudinal axis for deflecting the distal portion in response to tension on the pull wire to position and fixedly attached at the distal end of the steering means at a second angular position with respect to the longitudinal axis of the elongated body member,~~

~~wherein upon translation of the pull wire, the steering means is deflected and the ablation device is placed proximate and parallel to a surface of the target tissue site for whereby effective effecting tissue ablation can be achieved.~~

2. (Cancelled)

3. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 2 ~~wherein 1 in which~~ the pull wire is fixedly attached to the body member at the first location spaced a point of greatest lateral distance with respect to the distal end of the tubular member whereby the from the second location that provides enhanced mechanical advantage of the system is enhanced for deflecting the distal portion.

4. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 3 wherein the pull wire is fixedly attached to the body member at an angular ~~position~~ orientation of the first location of about 180° with respect to the angular ~~position~~ orientation of the distal end of the tubular member second location.

5. (Cancelled)

6. (Cancelled)

7. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 2, ~~wherein a~~ 1 in which a portion of the elongated body member proximal to the distal ~~end of the tubular member portion~~ is resilient ~~whereby to restore~~ the distal portion of the body member returns to a predetermined position when deflectional forces are removed in response to removal of tension on the pull wire.

8. (Cancelled)

9. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 8, ~~wherein the deflectable member means~~ 1 in which the flexible attachment has a cross-sectional geometry adapted to limit deflection to substantially one geometric plane.

10. (Original) The catheter system of claim 9, wherein the cross-sectional geometry is rectangular.

11. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 8, ~~wherein the deflectable member means~~ 1 in which the flexible attachment has a circular cross-sectional geometry.

12. (Cancelled)

13. (Cancelled)

14. (Cancelled)

15. (Cancelled)

16. (Cancelled)

17. (Cancelled)

18. (Cancelled)

19. (Cancelled)

20. (Currently Amended) The catheter system of claim 19 ~~wherein the steering system is arranged such that~~ 1 in which the pull wire is disposed substantially parallel to a longitudinal axis of the body member for minimizing during use, whereby abrasive wear is minimized.

21. (Cancelled)

22. (Cancelled)

23. (Cancelled)

24. (Cancelled)

25. (Cancelled)